

# BATS BY SEASON

A Coloring Book



*Illustrated by Kim O'Keefe*



# **SPRING**



**In early spring, migrating bats start their return journeys and hibernating bats arouse and leave their hibernacula.**

**This is a difficult time, as hibernating bats can be thin and migrants might not find the insects they need to complete the northward journey.**



**Storms can blow migrants off course, and young bats can get lost.**



**Resident bats return to summer roosts and settle in.**



## **Solitary bats:**

Solitary bats, sometimes referred to as tree bats, tend to roost alone or in small family groups. They have long dense fur and furred tail membranes. These bats are often migratory



# SUMMER

**Female bats start their pregnancies on spring arousal, and are ready to give birth in early summer.**



**Bats are very active during summer and may encounter predators, cars, and other difficulties.**

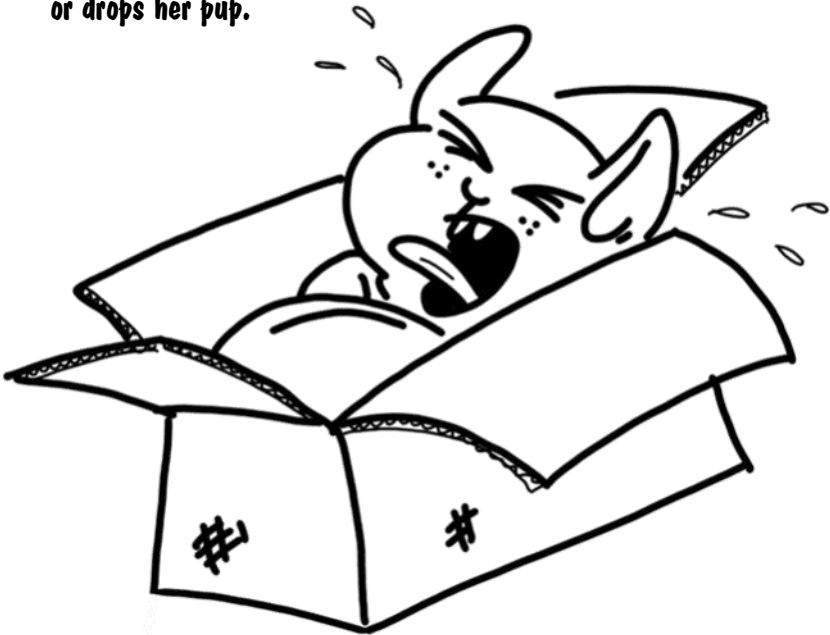




**Bat pups are born in summer, when insects are abundant.**



**Pups can become orphaned when a mother bat is caught by a predator or drops her pup.**



**In mid to late summer, young bats learn to fly and start to explore their surroundings.**

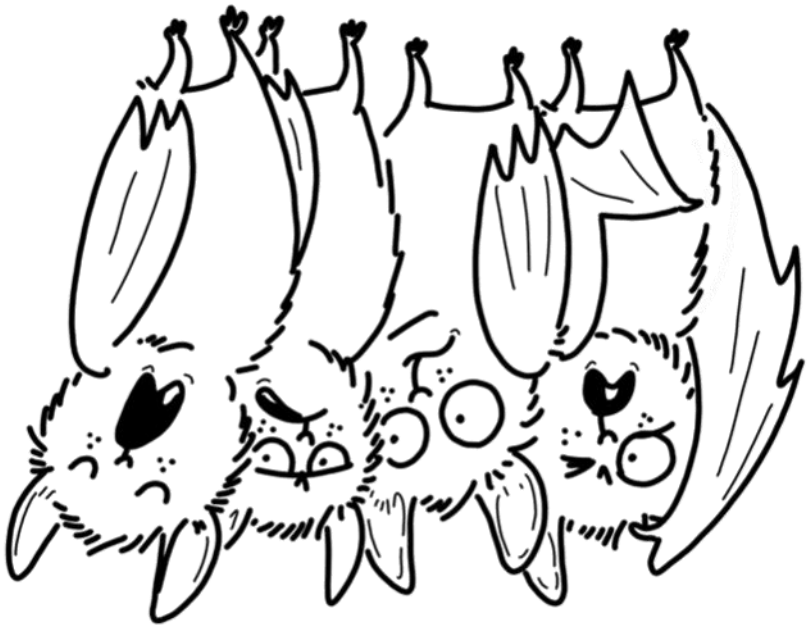


**Juvenile bats face a steep learning curve; their inexperience may cause them to make poor decisions and end up in difficult situations.**



## **Colonial bats:**

Colonial bats live in groups. They roost in crevices or hollows, where females form maternity colonies. Pups are usually born during a short pupping period and grow up together. Colonial species are usually darkly colored and have unfurred tail membranes.



# FALL

In fall, bats start to prepare for hibernation and migration.



**Adult bats mate in fall.**



**Young bats venture out on their own. They may be unfamiliar with migratory routes and new territory.**



## **Hibernacula:**

Hibernacula are places where bats, or other animals, hibernate. Because hibernating animals survive on stored fat, waking too often or too early can result in starvation. Hibernacula should not be disturbed when hibernating bats are present.





# WINTER



**Resident bats enter short bouts of torpor and arouse during warm spells. They can be observed on warm winter evenings as they drink from open water or forage for winter moths.**



**Cave hibernating bats enter deep torpor,  
only rarely waking to drink water.**



**As winter winds down, bats emerge to start a new year.**



## THANK YOU!

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Check out our other activities and publications at [www.savelucythebat.org](http://www.savelucythebat.org).



Bats need help, and we thank you for your interest and hope you'll share the word that Bats Aren't Scary!

